

## Fact Sheet:

### **California Opioid Maintenance Providers (COMP)**

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The California Organization of Methadone Providers (COMP), a not-for-profit corporation, was incorporated in 1991. During 2002, COMP changed its name to the California Opioid Maintenance Providers, respecting the introduction of new pharmacotherapy's and other opioid dependency treatment advances. COMP represents California's licensed Narcotic Treatment Programs (NTP), treating approximately 40,000 patients daily.

COMP was founded in 1973, as the California Conference of Methadone Programs (CCMP). It evolved from a group of methadone treatment providers sharing their experiences treating opiate dependency. It was apparent from the outset that NTPs using methadone would be challenging and controversial. The group realized that a combined effort would be necessary to provide the additional strength required to ensure that opioid treatment was recognized as a safe treatment option and readily available.

COMP has been instrumental in sponsoring legislation affecting all aspects of patient care, and advocating the implementation of regulations based upon science and clinical experience. COMP is represented on the Board of Directors of the American Association for the Treatment of Opioid Dependence (AATOD), the American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM), and the

California Society for Addiction Medicine (CSAM). Through these bodies, COMP

influences national legislation and policies.

COMP employs a full-time lobbyist, holds quarterly meetings, and one statewide meeting annually.

COMP recognizes the need for NTP's to integrate patients into the health care system. NTP providers are an extension of the public health system and provide a valuable treatment service.

For more information on COMP, contact their administrative office at:

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COMP makes available a website:

<http://www.comproviders.com>